

CLAIMS

1. A data processing apparatus that performs data processing to generate an EPG (Electronic Program Guide) to be displayed on display means displaying information, characterized by including:

program guide data acquiring means for acquiring program guide data that gives guidance on programs;

statistical data acquiring means for acquiring statistical data representing degree of interest in the programs shown by users; and

EPG generating means for generating an EPG in which said program guide data and said statistical data are superimposed.

2. The data processing apparatus according to Claim 1, characterized in that:

said statistical data includes at least one or more of the number of persons who viewed a program during a broadcast time thereof, an audience rating of the program during the broadcast time thereof, the number of persons who scheduled the program for recording, the number of persons who viewed the program recorded during the broadcast time thereof by playback, and a good impression level representing how a user feels about the program.

3. The data processing apparatus according to Claim 2, characterized in that:

said statistical data is obtained on the basis of information transmitted from user terminals of users, and

said audience rating of the program during the broadcast time thereof is obtained using the number of users of said user terminals which transmitted the information a

predetermined number of times or more within a predetermined period, as a population parameter.

4. The data processing apparatus according to Claim 1,
5 characterized by further including:

EPG transmission means for transmitting a latest EPG generated by said EPG generating means to a user of a user terminal.

- 10 5. The data processing apparatus according to Claim 1, characterized by further including:

history data acquiring means for acquiring, as to each of the users, history data which is a history of actions related to program viewing taken by the user;

- 15 wherein said EPG generating means generates said EPG in which said program guide data, said statistical data, and said history data are superimposed.

6. The data processing apparatus according to Claim 1,
20 characterized by further including:

operation data acquiring means for acquiring operation data operated when a user terminal of a user is caused to perform a predetermined process;

- 25 wherein said EPG generating means generates said EPG in which said program guide data, said statistical data, and said operation data are superimposed.

7. The data processing apparatus according to Claim 1, characterized in that:

- 30 said EPG generating means generates said EPG in which said program guide data is displayed in a different manner for different broadcast status of a program.

8. The data processing apparatus according to Claim 7, characterized in that:

5 said EPG generating means generates said EPG in which said program guide data is displayed in different manners for a program which ended, a program which is being broadcast and a program which will be broadcast.

9. The data processing apparatus according to Claim 1, characterized in that:

said EPG generated by said EPG generating means is displayable by a web browser.

10. The data processing apparatus according to Claim 1, characterized in that:

said EPG generated by said EPG generating means is displayable by a dedicated browser.

11. The data processing apparatus according to Claim 1, characterized by further including:

aggregation means for aggregating information transmitted from user terminals of users and obtaining said statistical data;

25 wherein said statistical data acquiring means acquires said statistical data obtained by said aggregation means.

12. The data processing apparatus according to Claim 11, characterized in that:

30 the information transmitted from said user terminals is first information representing that a program is viewed during a broadcast time thereof, second information representing that a program recorded during a broadcast time thereof is viewed

by playback, or third information representing that a program is scheduled for recording or that a recording schedule is cancelled.

- 5 13. The data processing apparatus according to Claim 12, characterized in that:

said first information includes information which specifies the program viewed by a user and a viewing date/time of the program;

- 10 said second information includes information which specifies a recorded program viewed by the user and a viewing date/time of the recorded program which uses a broadcast date/time of the recorded program viewed by the user as a reference; and

- 15 said third information includes information which specifies the program which is scheduled for recording or whose recording schedule is cancelled, and information representing the recording schedule or cancellation thereof.

- 20 14. The data processing apparatus according to Claim 13, characterized in that:

said first and second information further include a good impression level representing how the users feel about the program.

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15. The data processing apparatus according to Claim 13, characterized in that:

the second information further includes an actual viewing date/time at which the user viewed the recorded program.

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16. The data processing apparatus according to Claim 11, characterized in that:

the information transmitted from said user terminal includes date/time information about broadcast dates/times of the programs, and

5 said aggregation means aggregates the information transmitted from said user terminals for predetermined time intervals on the basis of said date/time information included in the information.

17. The data processing apparatus according to Claim 11,
10 characterized in that:

 said aggregation means sorts and stores the information transmitted from said user terminals by the users.

18. The data processing apparatus according to Claim 11,
15 characterized in that:

 said aggregation means determines whether or not the information transmitted from said user terminals is valid, and takes only valid information for aggregation.

20 19. The data processing apparatus according to Claim 11, characterized in that:

 said aggregation means aggregates the information transmitted from said user terminals for each of user attributes.

25 20. The data processing apparatus according to Claim 11, characterized in that:

 the information transmitted from said user terminals includes a good impression level representing how the users
30 feel about a program, and

 said aggregation means aggregates said good impression level for each of the programs.

21. The data processing apparatus according to Claim 1, characterized in that:

5 said EPG generating means generates an EPG in which said program guide data for one day is displayed on one page.

22. A data processing method of performing data processing to generate an EPG (Electronic Program Guide) to be displayed on display means displaying information, characterized by including:
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 a program guide data acquiring step of acquiring program guide data that gives guidance on programs;

 a statistical data acquiring step of acquiring statistical data representing degree of interest in the programs shown by users; and
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 an EPG generating step of generating an EPG in which said program guide data and said statistical data are superimposed.

23. A program that causes a computer to perform data processing to generate an EPG (Electronic Program Guide) that is displayed on display means displaying information, characterized by including:
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 a program guide data acquiring step of acquiring program guide data that gives guidance on programs;

25 a statistical data acquiring step of acquiring statistical data representing degree of interest in the programs shown by users; and

 an EPG generating step of generating an EPG in which said program guide data and said statistical data are superimposed.
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24. A data processing system including:

 a server for transmitting information; and

a user terminal for receiving information from said server,
the data processing system being characterized in that:

either said server or said user terminal includes:

program guide data acquiring means for acquiring
5 program guide data that gives guidance on programs;

statistical data acquiring means for acquiring
statistical data representing degree of interest in the
programs shown by users; and

EPG generating means for generating an EPG in which
10 said program guide data and said statistical data are
superimposed.